

A new subtribe, genus and species of Rhysodini from South Africa (Coleoptera: Carabidae or Rhysodidae)

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*Medisores abditus*, a new genus and species of Rhysodini from Ntsubane, S. Africa is described and figured. It is placed in a new subtribe, Medisorina. A key to the subtribes of Rhysodini is provided.

INTRODUCTION

A series of specimens of Rhysodini from South Africa has proven to represent an undescribed genus and species. The genus does not fit well into any of the recognized subtribes. The shallow frontal grooves suggest Dhysorina, but the latter subtribe has a well developed frontal pit. The long median lobe suggests Rhysodina, but the latter subtribe also has a median pit, and much deeper frontal grooves. *Medisores* might be regarded as justifying a merger of Rhysodina and Dhysorina. We regard it better, at least for the present, to place it in a sixth subtribe.

Subtribe MEDISORINA new subtribe

Minor setae in subapical rings on antennal segments 5-10, more generally distributed on segment 11. Frontal pit absent; frontal grooves shallow, convergent, meeting slightly anterior to cervical constriction; connected to latter by very short, shallow median groove (Fig. 1). Temporal lobes nearly touching posteriorly. Mentum fused to genae laterally. Elytral striation complete; stria 7 marginal. Male with calcar small but distinct (Fig. 6). Middle and hind tibiae with two, slightly unequal spurs.

The key to subtribes (Bell and Bell 1978) should be replaced by the following:

Key to subtribes of Rhysodini

- 1 Minor setae of antennae in broad bands on distal third of segments; mentum separated from ventral lobe of gena by distinct suture in anterior half ..... Leoglymniina
- Minor setae not in broad bands except on segment 11; mentum entirely fused to genae .... 2
- 2 Minor setae confined to ventral surface of antennae, in half bands or tufts, or else entirely absent ..... Clinidiina
- Minor setae forming complete circle at apex of segment ..... 3
- 3 Frontal pit absent; median lobe ending slightly anterior to cervical constriction ... Medisorina
- Frontal pit present ..... 4
- 4 Median lobe of head elongate, overhanging frontal pit, reaching cervical constriction; temporal lobes widely separated by median lobe ..... Rhysodina
- Median lobe short, not reaching cervical constriction; temporal lobes not widely separated 5

- 5 Median lobe not defined, frontal grooves at most suggested; frontal pit round, pore-like . . . . . Dhysorina  
 — Median lobe with at least tip well-defined; frontal grooves in most species well developed  
 (if frontal grooves ill-defined, frontal pit crescentic) . . . . . Omoglymmiina

### Genus *Medisoires* gen. nov.

Type-species: *Medisoires abditus* sp. nov., by monotypy.

Head. Antennal stylet absent. Basal setae present on antennal segments 4–11, arising from groove around base of each segment. Minor setae present on segments 5–11. Two labral setae. Two clypeal setae. Median lobe of head wedge-shaped, tapered to point posteriorly (Fig. 1). Frontal grooves shallow, glabrous, converging posteriorly. Each groove with single line of punctures, most anterior 3 or 4 much coarser than remainder. Grooves joined at occiput to form very short median groove. Occipital pit absent. Orbital groove deep, glabrous, extending to posterior margin of head (Fig. 1). Eye protuberant, oval, 1.5 times longer than deep (Fig. 2). Temporal setae absent.

Thorax. Pronotum with paramedian grooves complete (Fig. 1). Angular seta present. Marginal seta absent. Prosternum with small precoxal carina (Fig. 3). Elytra oval, inflated, not ankylosed. Humeral tubercle present. Each elytron with seven striae. Striae complete except for stria six, latter slightly abbreviated at base, apex. Strial punctures coarse. Impressed apex of stria seven with about six setae; elytron otherwise without setae. Hind wing a slender, but rather long, strap-like vestige.

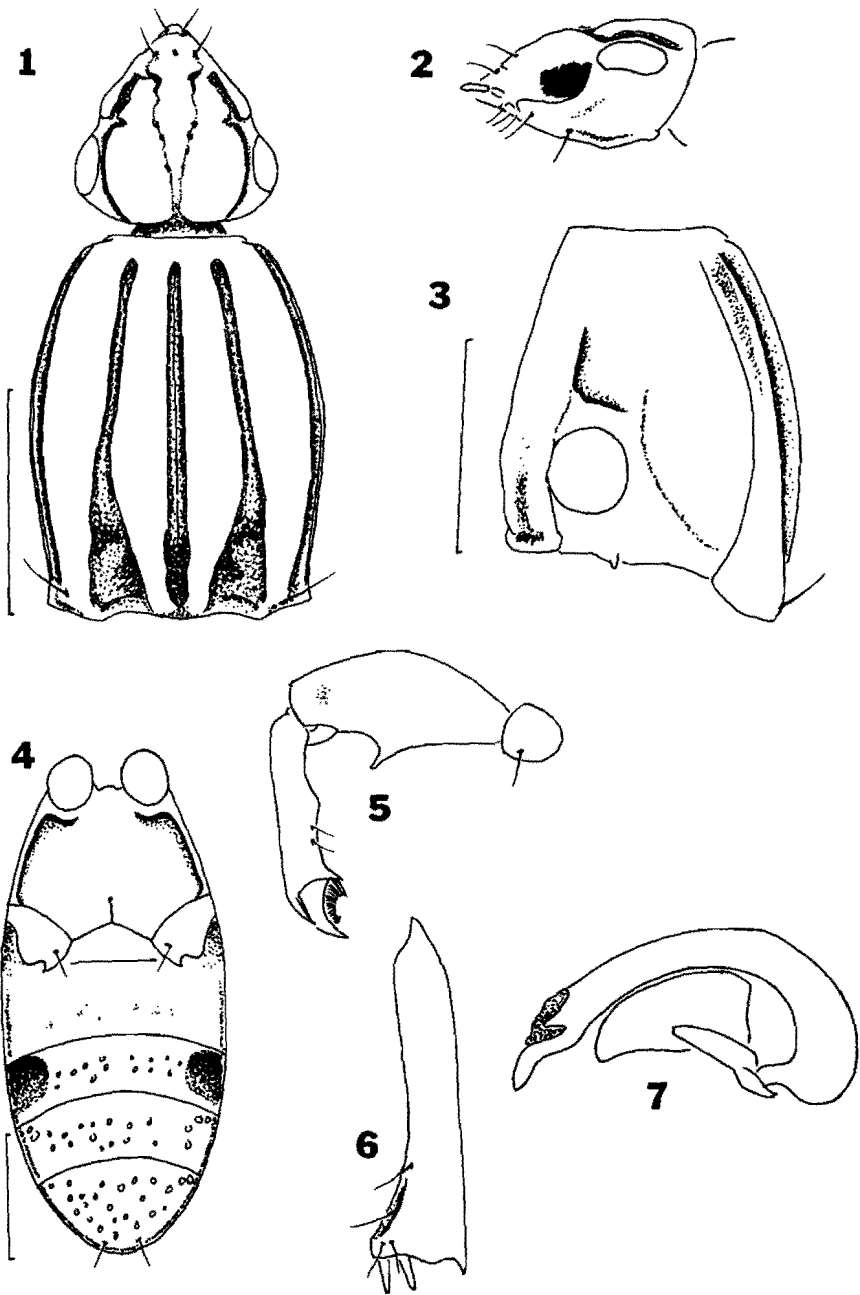
Abdomen alike in both sexes, coarsely punctate. Sternum 4 with deep lateral pits (Fig. 4). Anterior femur with large ventral tooth in male (Fig. 5). Female with much smaller tooth. Anterior tibia of male with protruding carina near middle of medial margin, opposed to ventral tooth of femur. Anterior tibia of female slender, without carina. Middle, hind tibiae each with two spurs, inner one about 0.7 as long as outer one. Hind tibia with curved apical tooth on outer margin. Middle tibia with much shorter, nearly straight apical tooth. Penis slender, curved, with prominent notch on right side near tip; apical lobe long, tapered, bent ventrally (Fig. 7).

### *Medisoires abditus* sp. nov., Figs 1–7.

Length 5.8–7.0 mm; colour dark reddish brown, as usual for Rhysodini; morphology as described for genus.

MATERIAL EXAMINED. HOLOTYPE, male, labelled “Ntsubane, G. A. Hepburn 20–4–1959 AcX1540” (In National Collection of Insects, Pretoria). ALLOTYPE female, same data as holotype, same repository. PARATYPES 1 male, 1 female, same locality and collector as holotype, 13–2–1959, AcX1539 (In British Museum of Natural History, London); 1 male, same data as holotype (In United States National Museum of Natural History). [Ntsubane is in the Transkei near Lusikisiki (31° 22' S. Lat.; 29° 35' E. Long.), 20 km from the coast.

Figs. 1–7. *Medisoires abditus*, sp. nov. 1. Head and pronotum, dorsal aspect, 2. Head, left lateral aspect, 3. Prothorax, left ventrolateral aspect, 4. Metasternum and abdomen, ventral aspect, 5. Anterior leg, male (excluding tarsus), 6. Hind tibia, male, 7. Penis and parameres, right lateral aspect. Scale line 1 mm.



REMARKS: Accession number 1539 reads 'from wood of *Cassipourea gummiflua* var. *verticellata*'. This tree belongs to Rhizophoraceae, and is known as 'onionwood'. The region of the type locality is a hilly grassland with deep gorges running to the sea. The gorges contain thick subtropical forest with huge, old trees (R. Oberprieler, personal communication).

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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#### REFERENCE

- BELL, ROSS T. & J. R. BELL. 1978. Rhysodini of the World. Part I. A new classification of the tribe and a synopsis of *Omoglymmius* subgenus *Nitiglymmius* new subgenus (Coleoptera: Carabidae or Rhysodidae). *Quaestiones Entomologicae* 14(1): 43-88.

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